

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KHARTO 00010 041439Z

47

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 102849

O 041240Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 871

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 0010

NODIS

STATE PASS OTHER AFRICAN POSTS AS APPROPRIATE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, AO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE ON ANGOLA

REF: STATE 001377

BEGIN SUMMARY: NIMEIRI MOST GRATEFUL FOR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE WHICH HE CLAIMED ENUNCIATED ANGOLAN POLICY SIMILAR TO THAT OF SUDAN. DIFFERENCE WITH USG CONCERNS MEANS, NOT ENDS. AT COMING OAU SUMMIT, GOS WILL SEEK PERSUADE OAU TO REVIVIFY ITS ANGOLAN COMMISSION WITH INSTRUCTIONS WORK FOR IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AND ESTABLISHMENT REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT THROUGH SOME FORM OF GENERAL ELECTIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. NIMEIRI RECEIVED ME NOON JANUARY 4 FOR DELIVERY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (REFTEL). FONMIN AHMED WAS PRESENT. AFTER READING MESSAGE CAREFULLY, NIMEIRI SAID THAT HE PLEASED WITH PRESIDENT FORD'S POSITION, IN PARTICULAR ASSURANCE THAT USG IN NO WAY SOUGHT OR ENCOURAGED SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT ANGOLA. SUDAN HAD FOLLOWED AKIN TO THAT OF USG POLICY UNTIL REPORTS HAD MULTIPLIED OF SOUTH AFRICAN INTERVENTION. AS AFRICAN STATE, THIS WAS SOMETHING SUDAN COULD NOT ACCEPT. HE THEN SAID NO AFRICAN COUNTRY WANTED EITHER SOUTH AFRICAN OR SOVIETS MEDDLING THERE.

2. NIMEIRI CONTINUED THAT HIS RECENT ACTION IN RECOGNIZING

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 KHARTO 00010 041439Z

MPLA REGIME HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO DISCOURAGE USSR FROM ADDITIONAL

INTERVENTION. SUDAN HAD "PROOF" THAT UNSPECIFIED NEIGHBORS HAD "STRATEGIC DESIGNS" ON ANGOLAN INDEPENDENCE. IT WAS TO FRUSTRATE THEIR EFFORTS, AND BECAUSE GOS BELIEVED THAT MPLA REPRESENTED MOST NEARLY A TRUE ANGOLAN NATIONAL MOVEMENT THAT SUDAN HAD FROM BEGINNING ASSISTED MPLA. NOTING LATTER GROUP HAS SOME ANTI-COMMUNIST MEMBERS, NIMEIRI STRESSED THAT GOS RECOGNITION WAS DESIGNED STRENGTHEN MODERATE WING MPLA, WHEREAS NON-RECOGNITION WOULD HAVE PLAYED INTO HANDS EXTREMISTS.

3. NIEMRI CONTINUED THAT HE FULLY SUPPORTED PRINCIPAL ENUNCIATED IN PRESIDENT'S LETTER OF LEAVING SOLUTION ANGOLAN PROBLEM TO THE ANGOLANS THEMSELVES. IT WAS JUST MEANS USG AND GOS WERE ADOPTING THAT DIFFERED. SUDAN AND NIGERIA HAD AGREED THAT RECOGNITION OF THE MPLA IS THE COURSE OF ACTION BEST CALCULATED TO ENCOURAGE THAT GROUP TO BECOME MORE MODERATE, NIMEIRI WAS CRITICAL MPLA'S DEPENDENCE ON SOVIETS AND CUBANS, CLAIMING HIS RECOGNITION LUANDA REGIME WAS DESIGNED TO HELP PREVENT DISMEMBERMENT OF ANGOLA. HE NOTED THAT HE WOULD RECEIVE VICE CHAIRMAN SOVIET PRESIDUM, S.B. NIYAZBOKOV, CURRENTLY VISITING SUDAN, FOLLOWING LATTER'S RETURN FROM SOUTH. HE PLANNED TELL NIYAZBOKOV THAT USSR SHOULD CEASE MAJOR INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA LEST THIS ESCALATE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN SUPER POWERS AND HE WOULD ASK NIYAZBOKOB PASS THIS MESSAGE ON TO MOSCOW. NIMEIRI CONCLUDED THAT HE HOPED HAVE FORMAL REPLY TO PRESIDENT'S LETTER TOMORROW AND SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE "BROADER COOPERATION" WITH US.

4. THANKING NIMEIRI FOR HIS FRANKNESS, I COMMENTED THAT SUDAN'S ACTION OF SUPPORTING MPLA HARDLY SEEMED METHOD BEST CALCULATED TO BRING ABOUT END WE BOTH EVIDENTLY SOUGHT OF COMPROMISE SOLUTION AMONG ANGOLAN FACTIONS WITHOUT FOREIGN INTERFERENCE. AS THINGS STOOD, GOS HAD RECOGNIZED ONE PARTY WHICH DREW MOST OF ITS SUPPORT FROM OVER 5,000 CUBAN TROOPS AND ADDITIONAL SOVIET ADVISORS. SHOULD SUCH REGIME TRIUMPH, IT WOULD BE HARDLY LIKELY TO BE ABLE ACT AS FREE AGENT IN DIRECTION NIMEIRI HOPED. PRESIDENT REPLIED SOMEWHAT LAMELY THAT GOS HAD RECOGNIZED GROUP IN THE CAPITAL CITY OF ANGOLA AND WOULD BE HAPPY IF THAT GROUP WERE ENLARGED TO INCLUDE REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER ELEMENTS. I NOTED DIFFERENCE BETWEEN RECOGNIZING ANGOLA AS A STATE AND RECOGNIZING A PARTICULAR
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 KHARTO 00010 041439Z

GROUP AS ITS GOVERNMENT, NOTABLY WHEN GENERALLY ACCEPTED CRITERIA OF INTERNATIONAL LAW CLEARLY NOT MET. NIMEIRI LAUGHED AND SAID THAT SUCH CRITERIA WERE NOT MET IN A FAIR NUMBER OF OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES EITHER.

5. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION, NIMEIRI SAID HIS DELEGATE TO OAU SUMMIT IN ADDIS WOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK TO PERSUADE MEMBER STATES THAT EXISTING COMMISSION OAU LEADERS FOR

ANGOLA SHOULD BE REVIVED. COMMISSION SHOULD BE ASKED TO WORK FOR IMMEDIATE CEASEFIRE AND PREPARE THE GROUND FOR A BROADLY BASED REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT THROUGH GENERAL ELECTIONS.

6. COMMENT: DESPITE DIFFERENCE IN SUBSTANCE, OUR MEETING WAS ONE OF MOST CORDIAL I HAVE HAD WITH PRESIDENT NIMEIRI. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY GRATIFIED BY PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER AND HAD ARRANGED FOR MEDIA COVERAGE OF FACT OF MY CALL. ON ANGOLAN ISSUE ITSELF, HE APPEARED BELIEVE THAT POLICY OF PLAYING ALONG WITH MPLA WOULD BE MORE LIKELY PREVENT DISMEMBERMENT ANGOLA AND ASSURE EVENTUAL ESTABLISHMENT MODERATE REGIME IN LUANDA THAN WOULD ONE OF CONTINUED CONFRONTATION AMONG CONTENDING GROUPS. HE WAS OBVIOUSLY FORTIFIED IN THIS POSITION BY REPORTS OF SOUTH AFRICAN INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHERN ANGOLA. NIMEIRI'S REMARKS WOULD SEEM IMPLY THAT NIGERIA MAY HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN PUSHING AN ANTI-ZAIRE LINE HERE, BUT WE LACK INFO ON WHICH TO PASS JUDGMENT. BREWER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, CAT-B
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KHARTO00010
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840123-0235
From: KHARTOUM
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760188/aaaaczyo.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 1377
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE ON ANGOLA
TAGS: PFOR, PREL, AO, US, SU, UR, (FORD, GERALD R), (NIMEIRI, JAFAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006